

Comparison of relocation effects on personality, emotion and behaviour among male and female military children

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ABSTRACT

Relocation means frequent shifting of residence depending upon the assignment allotted to the military personal, resulting in shifting of family as well. Which means shift of environment in 2-3 years. The aim of the research is to compare and find a relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among male and female military children on account of frequent shifting of residence. The data was collected from military children with more than 3 shifting of residence, further being a gender specific study, the data was segregated into two groups i.e male and female. Questionnaire used for the study were Big five factor Inventory (BFI-5) and strengths and difficulty questionnaire (SDQ). To test the hypothesis t-test and correlation was used. The findings were a) p-value was >0.05 for correlation between personality, emotions and behaviour among females which states no significant relationship. B) p-value was <0.05 for correlation between personality, emotion and behaviour among males which states a significant relationship. C) p-value was <0.05 for t-test between male and female personality resulting in significant difference. D) p-value was <0.05 for t-test between male and female emotion and behaviour resulted in significant difference.

Keywords: *comparison, personality, emotion and behaviour, relocation effects, military children, frequent transfers.*

Permanent Change of Station (PCS) refers to a service member's assignment to a new duty station in a new location for a period of no less than six months. A PCS may often last one to three years. These children are geographically mobile and deal with other stressors like parental deployment and their absence, which may have psychological and social effects on the children. Military personnel are expected to move their families as assignments change. Military personnel and their families move on average every 2 to 3 years, while civilian children move only once on average during their childhood (Kelley et al. 2003). These results are varied outcomes in the child that can be negative, positive, academic related, emotional along with impact on self worth and esteem.

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Comparison of Relocation Effects on Personality, Emotion and Behaviour Among Male and Female Military Children

Personality refers to individual differences in characteristic patterns of thinking, feeling and behaving. There are 5 main personality domains as per Big five factor inventory (Openness, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness and Neuroticism)

“Emotions” - wrote Aristotle (384–322 BCE), “are all those feelings that so change men as to affect their judgements, and that are also attended by pain or pleasure. Such are anger, pity, fear and the like, with their opposites.” Emotion is indeed a heterogeneous category that encompasses a wide variety of important psychological phenomena. Some emotions are very specific, as they concern a particular person, object, or situation. Others, such as distress, joy, or depression, are very general. There are 6 basic types of emotions and explore the impact they have on human behaviour: happiness, sadness, fear, disgust, anger and surprise.

Behaviour in psychology consists of an organism's external reactions to its environment. Other aspects of psychology, such as emotions, thoughts, and other internal mental processes, don't usually fall under the category of behaviour. Behaviour may be modified according to positive or negative reinforcements from the organism's environment or according to self-directed intentions. Behaviourism was formally established with the 1913 publication of John B. Watson's classic paper, who is often considered the "father" of behaviourism "Psychology as the Behaviourist Views It." Any person, regardless of his or her background, can be trained to act in a particular manner given the right conditioning. "There are two major types of conditioning: classical conditioning and operant conditioning

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Weber & Weber, (2005) concluded that there was some evidence of a positive correlation between frequent moves and increased participation in activities and organizations which, in turn was seen as positively related to school achievement. A more recent study on adolescents in military families has similarly found improvements in behaviour with frequency of moves.

Riviere, L. A., & Merrill, J. C. (2011). The impact of combat deployment on military families. they have illustrated that military families are likely to face a number of stressors as a product of their occupation, and we have categorized these stressors as being acute, chronic, or daily. they have also argued that one of the defining characteristics of military stressors is the high probability of simultaneously experiencing a number of chronic and daily stressors and that these are not static within and between families. Clearly, these challenges can have negative consequences for the mental and physical health of military personnel and their spouses and children. As noted, however, the data suggest that many military families are able to cope successfully with the challenges that they face.

*Nancy Nicosia, ,Elizabeth Wong, Victoria Shier, Samira Massachi, and Ashlesha Datar(2017)*examined the relationship between a military parent's deployment and (1) adolescent academic and social-behavioural maladjustment and (2) parental psychological well-being. Compared with no or short deployments, long deployments were associated with significantly higher odds of decreases in adolescent academic performance, independence, and being responsible. These associations were also significant for boys but not for girls. Among parents, long deployments were associated with significantly higher odds of being depressed, even when controlling for adolescent maladjustment. These associations did not differ significantly between military and civilian parents and were significant for military

Comparison of Relocation Effects on Personality, Emotion and Behaviour Among Male and Female Military Children

fathers but not military mothers. Recent deployment (in the past 12 months) was not associated with either adolescent or parent outcome.

Aim/ Objective

1. To assess comparison of relocation effects on personality, emotion and behaviour among military children.
2. To assess the difference on personality among male and female military children due to relocation.
3. To assess the difference on emotion and behaviour among male and female military children due to relocation.

Hypothesis

- H1:** There will be a significant relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among female military children.
- H2:** There will be a significant relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among male military children.
- H3:** There will be a significant difference on personality among female and male military children.
- H4:** There will be a significant difference on emotion and behaviour among male and female military children.

METHODOLOGY

Sample/Participants

The study was conducted on military children aged between 18-25 years from Delhi NCR. Total of 121 participants were assessed via questionnaire and google forms with the ratio of 60% -40% respectively.

S no.	Participants	Sample size
1.	Female	53.72%
2.	Male	46.28%

Description of Tools Used

Big five factor inventory - this questionnaire measure the personality of an individual using a technique called factor analysis researchers can look at the responses of people to hundreds of personality items .There seem to be unlimited personality variables, five stand out from the pack in terms of explaining a lot of a person's answers to questions about their personality: extraversion, neuroticism, agreeableness, conscientiousness and openness to experience. There are 44 questions in total.

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire -The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is a brief behavioural screening questionnaire. It has 25 items comprising of 5 scales: emotional symptoms, conduct problems, hyperactive / inattention, peer relation problems and pro-social behaviour.

Statistical Analysis

In this research T-test and correlation will be used for statistical analysis.

Comparison of Relocation Effects on Personality, Emotion and Behaviour Among Male and Female Military Children

RESULTS

***First we perform correlation test between personality traits and emotions and behavior among Females**

Correlation coefficient (r)	-0.161814209
Total number of cases (N)	65
Tstatistic	-1.301512789
D.F	63
p-value	0.19782239

H0: The correlation is not significant

H1: The correlation is significant

Result: Since p-value is >0.05 , therefore we accept H0, that is the correlation is not significant

***Second we perform correlation test between personality traits and emotions and behavior among Males**

Correlation coefficient (r)	-0.32261792
Total number of cases (N)	56
Tstatistic	-2.50467461
D.F	54
p-value	0.015307119

H0: The correlation is not significant

H1: The correlation is significant

Result: Since p-value is <0.05 , therefore we reject H0, that is the correlation is significant

*** Third we perform t-test between males and females for personality traits.**

Mean personality trait score among Females	157.6615385
Mean personality trait score among Males	153.2142857
p-value	0.038643462

H0: There is no significant difference between personality traits among males and females

H1: There is a significant difference between personality traits among males and females

Result: Since p-value is < 0.05 , we reject H0, that is there is a significant difference between personality traits among males and females

*** Fourth we perform t-test between males and females for emotions and behaviour**

Mean personality trait score among Females	21.89230769
Mean personality trait score among Males	17.48214286
p-value	2.53676E-05

H0: There is no significant difference between emotions and behaviour among males and females

H1: There is a significant difference between emotion and behaviour among males and females

Result: Since p-value is < 0.05 , we reject H0, that is there is a significant difference between emotion and behaviour among males and females

DISCUSSION

The aim of the study was to compare personality, emotion and behaviour among male and female military children who have been relocated more than twice.

Permanent Change of Station (PCS) refers to a service member's assignment to a new duty station in a new location for a period of no less than six months. A PCS may often last one to three years. These children are geographically mobile and deal with other stressors like parental deployment and absence, which may have psychological and social effects on the children. Military personnel are expected to move their families as assignments change. Military personnel and their families move on average every 2 to 3 years, while civilian children move only once on average during their childhood (Kelley et al. 2003). These results are varied outcomes in the child that can be negative, positive, academic related, emotional along with impact on self worth and esteem.

Personality refers to individual differences in characteristic patterns of thinking, feeling and behaving. There are 5 main personality domains as per Big five factor inventory (Openness, Conscientiousness , Extraversion, Agreeableness and Neuroticism) "Emotions" - wrote Aristotle (384–322 BCE), "are all those feelings that so change men as to affect their judgements, and that are also attended by pain or pleasure. Such are anger, pity, fear and the like, with their opposites." Emotion is indeed a heterogeneous category that encompasses a wide variety of important psychological phenomena. Some emotions are very specific, as they concern a particular person, object, or situation. Others, such as distress, joy, or depression, are very general. There are 6 basic types of emotions and explore the impact they have on human behaviour: happiness, sadness, fear, disgust, anger and surprise. Behaviour in psychology consists of an organism's external reactions to its environment. Other aspects of psychology, such as emotions, thoughts, and other internal mental processes, don't usually fall under the category of behaviour. Behaviour may be modified according to positive or negative reinforcements from the organism's environment or according to self-directed intentions. Behaviourism was formally established with the 1913 publication of John B. Watson's classic paper, who is often considered the "father" of behaviourism "Psychology as the Behaviourist Views It." Any person, regardless of his or her background, can be trained to act in a particular manner given the right conditioning." There are two major types of conditioning: classical conditioning and operant conditioning.

The rationale of the study is that not many studies/ works done in the Indian context while assessing the comparison of relocation effects on personality, emotion and behaviour among male and female military children.

The research design selected for the study was t-test and correlation, the sample was of 121 participants that were relocated more than three times, further as it was a gender specific study the sample was segregated in two categories females and males. To compare the relocation effects on personality, emotion and behaviour among female and male military children the Big- Five factor Inventory and Strengths and Difficulty Questionnaire were used.

There were four hypotheses, the first hypothesis was that - There will be a significant relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among female military children, the hypothesis was analysed by using correlation, the result was that p-value >0.05 which means the correlation is not significant.

Comparison of Relocation Effects on Personality, Emotion and Behaviour Among Male and Female Military Children

the second hypothesis was -There will be a significant relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among male military children, the hypothesis was analyzed by using correlation, the result was that p-value <0.05 which means the correlation is significant.

the third hypothesis was - There will be a significant difference on personality among female and male military children, the hypothesis was analysed by using t-test, the result was p-value < 0.05 that is there is a significant difference between personality traits among males and females.

the fourth hypothesis was - There will be a significant difference on emotion and behaviour among male and female military children, the hypothesis was analysed by using t-test, the result was p-value is < 0.05 that is there is a significant difference between emotion and behaviour among males and females.

CONCLUSION

The results of the study indicated that there was no relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among females military children due to relocation according to hypothesis one, while there was a significant relationship between personality, emotion and behaviour among male military children according to hypothesis two. There was a significant difference among personality in male and female military children according to hypothesis three and there was a significant difference among emotion and behaviour in male and female military children according to hypothesis four.

The limitations of the study can be as follows:

1. The sample size is less to generalize the result on the larger population.
2. Inclusion of various dimensions like specific personality traits can further help in in-depth study.

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Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

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